

Hoechst



Hoechst UK Limited

Hoechst Pharmaceutical Research Laboratories

Professor Paul Berg,
Professor of Biochemistry,
School of Medicine,
Stanford University,
Stanford,
California, USA

Walton Manor
Walton Milton Keynes
Bucks MK7 7AJ
Telephone Pineham (090-868) 5068
Telex 826033

Your ref

Date

Our ref **JDC:KM**

Date **4th July, 1978**

Dear Professor Berg,

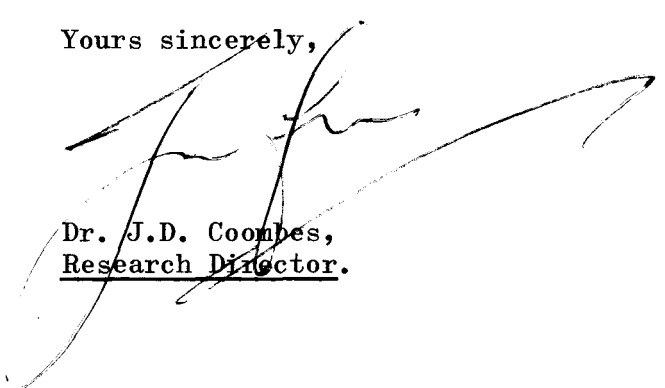
As you may know from the 1st August 1978 the UK will be the first country in the world to bring genetic manipulation under legislative control and from next month details of all proposed work on genetic manipulation must be notified to the Genetic Manipulation Advisory Group (GMAG) set up by the UK Government. GMAG will advise on the risk categorisation of the proposed study and the Government Safety Inspectorate will check that the advice of GMAG is being followed.

I understand that you and a number of the co-signatories of your letter of July 1974 are about to issue a statement reflecting your current views as to the conjectural hazards that may be associated with genetic manipulation.

I am interested to know when you expect this statement to be issued, and I would greatly appreciate receiving a copy from you. Many of us in the UK are concerned that the present regulations governing the practice of genetic manipulation are hindering our research and discouraging industrial investment in this area in the UK.

Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. J.D. Coombes,
Research Director.